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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/780,398	02/17/2004	Valiuddin Ali	200314072-1	1614
22879 7590 03/07/2008 HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400				
EXAMINER WILLIAMS, JEFFERY L.				
ART UNIT 2137		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 03/07/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/780,398

Applicant(s)

ALI ET AL.

Examiner

JEFFERY WILLIAMS

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SG/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/13/07.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1 – 46 are pending.

This action is in response to the communication filed on 12/13/07.

All objections and rejections not set forth below have been withdrawn.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/13/07 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1 – 18 and 31 – 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, these claims broadly recite computer elements as software per se. Computer

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instructions without a tangible and statutory embodiment fail to fall within one of the statutory categories of invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 – 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Thompson et al. (Thompson), “Device Security Mechanism Based on Registered Passwords”, EP 1,111,495 A1.

Regarding claim 1, Thompson discloses:

a security module adapted to control access to a secure computer resource by a user via a client based on verification of a security credential provided by the user (fig. 2:108; par. 11);

and verification data disposed on the client and accessible by the security module (fig. 4:404, 406, 408, 412, 414, 416, 418 – herein disclosed is information disposed on the client which implements a recovery mechanism), the security module adapted to enable the user to recover the security credential based on a response received from the user associated with the verification data (fig. 6).

Regarding claim 2, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to enable the user to reset the security credential based on the response (fig. 4:414).

Regarding claim 3, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to generate a query to present to the user based on the verification data (fig. 6:602,608,610).

Regarding claim 4, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to control booting of the client based on the response (Abstract).

Regarding claim 5, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to initiate a collection module to acquire the verification data from the user (fig. 4).

Regarding claim 6, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to encrypt the security credential based on the verification data (fig. 4:406).

Regarding claim 7, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to decrypt an encrypted security credential based on the response (par. 22).

Regarding claim 8, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is disposed in a basic input/output system (BIOS) (par. 11).

Regarding claim 9, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to control access to a secure communications network (col. 6:40-44 – access to the operations of the client [i.e. network access], is controlled).

Regarding claim 10, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to control access to a computer network resource (col. 6:40-44 – access to the operations of the client [i.e. network resource access] is controlled).

Regarding claim 11, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to enable the user to retrieve the security credential based on the response (par. 22).

Regarding claim 12, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is adapted to automatically reset the security credential based on the response (fig. 6:610,612,614,616,618).

Regarding claim 13, Thompson discloses:

wherein the security module is disposed on the client (fig. 2).

Regarding claims 14 – 46, they are system method and means claims essentially corresponding to claims 1 – 13, and they are rejected, at least, for the same reasons.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

See Notice of References Cited.

A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 3 months (not less than 90 days) from the mailing date of this communication.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffery Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-7965. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

J. Williams
AU: 2137

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2137